## A NIGHT OUT

## BY JASON WELCH

When the gang gets out of NEWTOWN station they agree to meet after school to discuss the future of the TRAFALGAR GANG. The next day STRINGFELLOW and JAMES arrive at school walk ing through entrance hall and up t o to class 5b.

KEVIN FOTISQUE Enjoy the Bank holiday everyone, I hear some of you went to FELIXSTOWE.

GRAHAM Any excuse for a party Sir, you know us by now. KEVIN FOTISQUE After the register get to assembly and then your first lesson is history with DIANA BUNKER and SARAH DUNLOP and I have you for home economics second lesson. The class fall out and walk to reception into main hall for

assembly.

The main hall has stacks of chairs and exercise mats on the left with light streaming through the windows on the right as they line up in front of the stage. They stand in front of the stage and observe teachers as Headmaster Maurice Denham gets to his lectern. DEN HAM Welcome back everyone, nice to see you all after the BANK HOLIDAY. After assembly I'll be coming around with BERNICE For you to cast your vote to elect head boy and girl for each year .W e're looking forward to the results with eager anticipation.

Lora I'm voting for you STRINGFELLOW.

T im It's not like we got much choice, as he is the head honcho . After assembly the whole school leave the hall and get to there classrooms, which for the TRAFALGAR GANG means one of the modern rooms at the extension to the main building where student teacher SARAH DUNLOP is handing out text books .

As they take seats while history teacher DIANA BUNKER comes around her desk and perches on a chair in front of the class .

DIANA BUNKER A fter Henry dies in 1853, Mary attempts to reintroduce Catholicism to the point where she is unpopular.

SARAH DUNLOP Her Sister Elisabeth is crowned in 1568 supported and very keen make a permanent break with Rome.

DIANA BUNKER It took many years of translation by over forty scholars culminating in the King James Bible of 1611.

SARAH DUNLOP At this point we shall leave our lesson for

know, time has caught up with us, if you pardon the pun.

So I want an essay on THE ENGLISH CIVIL DIANA BUNKER WAR from all of you by next lesson.

The students leave the class leaving the teachers to prepare for there next assignment.

They leave to go to there next lesson and is joined by IAN C HESTERFIELD, from science room next door.

IAN I tell you if I have to smell gas and evacuate the school one more time this term I'll guit teaching.

Beakers and bunsen burners driving you DIANA

insane Ian?

From main assembly they pass students up stairway and along first flour to there staff room.

I'm sure in need of a cup of tea, Dear, won't you IAN ioin me.

DIANA Is it true that you need a beryllium sphere if you want to build an atomic bomb then lan.

IAN A simple yes please Ian, I would be delighted would have done, and possibly a ginger biscuit.

They enter a staff room and head straight for the urn in the far corner, where Burnice Summerfield is talking to Kevin

A sk him about the Gaylord KEVIN FORTESQUE scandal of two years ago.

**RODNEY** I'd rather not be reminded of that fateful night last year when I walked into the PINK PELICAN NIGHTCLUB on Chelsea street . A reporter from Gazette spotted me and threatened to report me to our headmaster.

That is known as the Rodney B ennet Gaylord KEVIN scandal in some teaching circles.

Yeah, and I'll never live it down, what with being called RODNEY to principles office to explain myself.

SARAH DULOP What was he doing there then .

IAN CHESTERFIELD A reporter from the local

Gazette is so desperate for a story they'll print anything.

So I hear you still can be found BERNICE down the pink pelican on a Friday night Rodney.

I'll just take 5B for home economics **KEVIN** and expect you around with headmaster.

**RODNEY** Yes it's true I still go to the PINK

PELICAN sometimes .

Kevin FORTISQUE I have to say I felt sorry for you having to see the headmaster over a busy body of a parent who

probably has it in for all of us teachers .

RODNEY Yes Well I was on stage with a hard hat , high viz jacket and no trousers on though it was just for a laugh.

BERNICE It's lucky Principal Denham is loyal to

his teachers.

IAN CHESTERFIELD Look Rodney, we are standing by you on this and Were join you in the PINK PELICAN tonight. SARAH DUNLOP And if any of us spot that grass that snitched on you we'll tell him off and report him to his manager.

KEVIN FORTESQUE She is a Tiger when here

bloods up

BERNICE I'd had better catch up with the head and start counting up the votes for head boy.

DIANA BUNKER I've just given an English lesson to

5b .

SARAH DUNLOP Well, from the way your lips were puckered, I thought you were taking a bugle lesson. Today's the day you're supposed to find out about that new job as head of the English department DIANA BUNKER And after I've had the job a while, I might even go abroad. Paris, the Riviera, a casino at Monte Carlo.

DIANA BUNKER Another dreary day it's Cardinals SCHOOL, but there's always my secret heartthrob, Mr CHESTERFIELD

SARAH DUNLOP A sweeter, more intelligent scientist never brushed off a History teacher ,But he'll come around.

DIANA BUNKER Even a biology teacher must sooner or

later get a little biological.

The bell rings for the next of the next teaching session to begin and they leave the staff room and step down the main stairs to the black and white tiled entrance hall.

Bernice crosses to the main entrance and enters a side corridor with charcoal gray tiled carpet polystyrene, tiled ceiling tiles strip lights and plasterboard partitioned offices.

BERNICE Be with you in a moment. I'm just making a phone call.

She leaves the principals office and walks outside the main entrance .

MARK GREENSTREET Make it quick Dear, I have to get to the vicarage half a mile away with my lawnmower, to mow around the cemetery.

I need you to come to the PINK PELICAN BERNICE We have to stand by our RODNEY cos OF that Gaylord scandal MARK GREENSTREET Alright if it means that much to you, speak to you later.

The TRAFALGAR GANG make it to the science room.

STRINGFELLOW SHAW Don't keep turning the gas on LORA,. Just cos you probably one the election, along with Miss LORA

Panorama chemicals you think you own us is that it.

IAN CHESTERFIELD Strides into the room and places his case on the desk.

IAN CHESTERFIELD Greetings I hope that's not gas I can smell ?If I catch any of you, turning the gas tap on you'll be in detention.

It's elementary biology, Sir that gens was TIM CURRY discovered by Professor Wilkinson, but that is just the start of the storv.

IAN CHESTERFIELD Yes the confusion of who found the cell structure and proposed mapping them

WE herd that all the staff are going to LORA DENHAM the PINK PELICAN pub tonight.

IAN CHESTERFIELD The staff are going there to lend some moral support.

My dad was given a picture of Rodney in LORA DENHAM a high viz jacket dancing with no trousers on .

Ian CHESTERFIELD I'm Mr voted sports jacket three years running and I'm not jeopardizing that reputation,

JAMES GRANGER Was MUFFIN THE MULE a veiled attempt at socialist indoctrination of vulnerable kids.

IAN CHESTERFIELD Really James you know even in the heady days when my generation where thinking of ANARCHY dropping out, and experimenting I've never had a question like that. MICHEAL SULLIVAN But did hammy the hamster blur the issue of color and racial integration.

IAN CHESTERFIELD It was in black and white when I was a lad Michael. I'll wangle it about the staff room and see what the other teachers come up with and when I return I'll announce the winner of the head boy competition. But for creationism we've been searching for since time began, which you'll have to discover. IAN SLAMS THE DOOR on his way out grumbling "thank you Gilbert and Sullivan" and heads down the corridor back up to the

main building. KEVIN FORTISQUE So 5b are happy with the results of the

head boy and girl elections today, though they are getting cheeky. they are trying to sell me hair restorer.

And they where trying to convince me that watch with mother was a social political indoctrination of young minds.

Has Miss Summerfield finished IAN CHESTERFIELD counting up the votes, Maurice. I want that SHAW to get egg on his face.

**DENHAM** SHE'S IN MY room now so go and see if she has the scores.

THAT EVENING TEACHERS ARRIVE AT THE PINK PELICAN The club is a brightly lit with a small ultraviolet light.

Hello there Mark I remember IAN teaching you a few years back. I'll be happy when your girlfriend gets here soon, this bar is filling up with men.

MARK GREENSTREET SHE WILL BE HERE SOON , though she's taking a bus into town as the cars in the garage . I had a little accident Saturday.

KEVIN FORTESQUE What accident. MARK GREENSTREET I ran into a parked car. Oh, that's too bad. I hope you KEITH FORSET reported it to the police.

MARK GREENSTREET I didn't have to. They were sitting in the car.

IAN CHESTERFIELD

GREAT

BERNICE and her rounders team of post graduates arrive walking through through the louvered doors and come over the strobe lighted dance floor to join them. The history teachers EVELYN SMYTH and DIANA BUNKER follow them in and over to the alcove with the male teachers.

DIANA BUNKER You have such a quick mind, Mr. CHESTERFIELD Don't you think you need more recreation, if you know what I mean?

IAN CHESTERFIELD Of course, I also collect stamps.

SARAH DUNLOP Oh, that sounds exciting. There's no end to the possibilities. Have you ever tried your hand at beadwork?

IAN CHESTERFIELD No, I don't believe I have. Is it fun?

DIANA BUNKER We must string a few together sometimes.

SARAH DUNLOP And basket weaving can be thrilling too.

IAN CHESTERFIELD Really?

DIANA BUNKER Yes, if we're both in the same

basket.

Kevin FORTESQUE I would just like to warn you all that the class of 5b have threatened to wait outside with cameras for when we leave this bar later on.

A man dressed as a HARLEQUIN walks from the DISK JOCKY pit and takes center stage

HARLEQUIN soon I shall judge the DANCE

COMPETITION, and I have costumes for anyone who wants to take part. Come on now quy's don't be bashful.

part. Come on now guy's don't be bashful

IAN CHESTERFIELD Well, so much for the world of sports.

RODNEY I'M SO GLAD YOU LOT TURNED UP,

I've got my reputation on the line again as the head of the PTA is over there sitting by the bar.

MARK GREENSTREET Ok then would one of you ladies

care to join me for the first dance of the evening.

IAN CHESTERFIELD Miss BUNKER, if you don't mind my changing the subject, are you going to be busy tonight?

DIANA BUNKER Busy? Me? I couldn't be unbusier.

IAN CHESTERFIELD Well, I'd like to come over after

this dance, That is if we can be alone.

DIANA ABUNKER Alone? We'll be absolutely isolated. I hope you don't think I'm too forward, but I've anticipated this moment for quite a while.Do you remember the day about five years ago when I first came to CARDINAL WOLSEY SCHOOL, turned right in the corridor and bumped smack into you?

IAN CHESTERFIELD Oh, yes, I was teaching chemistry then. You put quite a dent in my Bunsen burner.

t he disco steps up a beat and BERNICE and MARK e merge in figure hugging costumes and walk onto the dance floor joining a group of Revelers .

IAN CHESTERFIELD I'm not risking my position as MR distinguished of CARDINAL WOLSEYS by dressing up in a leotard, Bernice I'll have to sit this one out.

By now the TRAFALGAR GANG has made it outside with RUFFUS and ROY .

LORA DENHAM WITH THE RIGHT PICKS this could become a front page spread for the school magazine.

RUFFUS You say that Mark is in there, I have to see

this

Ann looks in and spots the gardner with a trophy, in a green and white costume and has to run in with her camera.

BERNICE For gods sake, the PTA chairman is sitting over there, can you get her out of here.

A NN FITZGERALD Say cheese Mark this is one for the archives.

Ruffus leaves with Mark pulling Ann Fitzgerald after them.

MARK GREENSTREET realy Ann you'll get us all in trouble.

TIM WALKER Let me see these girls from the rounders team then.

STRINGFELLOW We're playing them at rounders at the recreation ground tomorrow,

Mark GREENSTREET Trust me lads they don't disappoint , and you can stop taking the mick out of RODNEY as I think he has pulled his dance partner.

LORA Don't you think your all getting away with this, I'm showing my uncle MAURICE these snaps as soon as the bell goes tomorrow.

Ann That's right, and we shall leave all you teachers to your SPANDEX ARTISTICAS COMPETITION and see you all tomorrow.